



Vendor Update

A Publication of the Maryland WIC Program

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Family Health Administration

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Infant Formula

Recently, all vendors were notified about changes in the way infant food packages will be described on WIC checks. The following is reiterated:

- Enfamil with Iron, Prosobee, and Enfamil AR powder will only be prescribed in 14.3 oz cans. An Enfamil with Iron check for example, would now read:

4 Enfamil with Iron, Powder 14.3 oz can

- Checks for LactoFree powder for Enfacare powder will now offer a choice of 8, 14.3 oz cans or 9, 12.9 oz cans. The Lipil variety of these formulas will replace the non-Lipil counterpart once the non-Lipil supplies are depleted. These checks will be issued to participants during the transition period and will then be replaced by checks that allow the purchase of only the Lipil form of LactoFree or EnfaCare in the new 12.9 oz can size. A LactoFree check for example, would now read:

4 14.3 or 5 12.9 oz Lactofree/LF Lipil Pow

(which prescribes 4 14.3 oz Lactofree or 5 12.9 oz Lactofree Lipil) *or*

4 Lactofree/LF Lipil 14.3 or 12.9 oz Powder

(which prescribes 4 14.3 oz Lactofree or 4 12.9 oz Lactofree Lipil)

- Prosobee food packages will no longer contain the name Enfamil Soy. Mead Johnson has informed us that the Prosobee name will continue to be used for their soy formula.
- All Mead Johnson 32 oz. ready-to-use formulas will now read 1 qt. to reflect the labeling change made by Mead Johnson.

- Checks for Enfamil with Iron Premature, 20 and 24 cal./oz., will now read Enfamil with Iron Premature Lipil, 20 and 24 cal./oz., to reflect the name change instituted by Mead Johnson. Similarly, checks for Similac NeoSure will now read NeoSure/NeoSure Advance to reflect the name change for this product. In these cases, the quantities of formula that WIC can provide have not changed.

If you have any questions, please contact your local WIC agency, or James A. Butler at 410-767-5258 or 1-800-242-4WIC(4942) (during normal business hours).

Revised Vendor Manual

A Revised Maryland WIC Program Vendor Manual will be mailed to all authorized WIC vendors in early 2003. Please be sure to replace your current version with the revised version, and take the time to review the revised pages. If you have questions about the manual or would like additional copies, please contact JoAnn McGowen at 410-767-5251.



WIC Window Signs



During monitoring visits, it has been noted that many vendors do not have the WIC window sign on display. If you would like replacement signs, please contact JoAnn McGowen at 410-767-5251.



New Product Alert



General Mills is introducing two new Cheerios flavors in January 2003. Triple Berry and Strawberry Cheerios **do not** meet the Federal Criteria for use in the WIC Program and are not authorized. If you have any questions, please contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258 or Amy Kovar Resnik at 410-767-6902.

Vendor Training

The Maryland WIC Program would like to thank all of the vendors that participated in our recent Annual Vendor Training sessions.



Turnout was excellent! Remember, well-trained personnel make fewer errors when processing WIC transactions. Feedback and suggestions are always welcome. A schedule for cashier training in 2003 will be mailed to all Vendors in January. Please feel free to contact Frances McRae-Washington at 410-767-5433 with questions.

Make Up Annual Vendor Training

If your store was not represented at one of the required annual vendor training sessions in October or November 2002, you will be notified by mail of the date and location of the final make up sessions(s). As you know, the WIC vendor agreement includes the requirement that WIC vendors must attend one training session each year or risk losing their authorization to accept WIC checks. If you have any questions about this required training, please contact Frances McRae-Washington at 410-767-5433.



Selling Your Store?



If you are selling or closing your store please notify the Maryland WIC Program at least 15 days in advance. Selling your store does not transfer your WIC authorization! The new owner must apply to the Maryland WIC Program for authorization. You are also required to return your WIC vendor stamps to the Maryland WIC Program. If you have questions, or plan to sell your store, please contact JoAnn McGowen at 410-767-5251.

Vendor Feedback

We want to make your participation in the WIC Program a rewarding experience.

WE NEED YOU! Your input is valued and strongly encouraged. If you have suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258.



Vendor Operations & Compliance Staff Directory

James A. Butler, Chief	410-767-5258
JoAnn McGowen,	410-767-5251
Frances McRae-Washington	410-767-5433
Stanley Parsons	410-767-5256
WIC Toll Free Number	1-800-242-4WIC

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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